

## WEST LAFAYETTE TRAFFIC COMMISSION

WEST LAFAYETTE CITY BUILDING

WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

**TIME:** 5:00 pm, Tuesday, July 15, 2014

**PLACE:** West Lafayette Public Library

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Dave Buck	Kathleen Mills	Larry Preo
	Eric Chin	Chris Leroux	Larry Wood
	Karen O'Farrell	Andrew Hirsch	
	Ann Brown	Carrie Ehresman	
	Kumares Sinha	Boudewijn van Gelder	

<b>VISITORS:</b>	Erin Cooper	Michael Susong	Guthrie Carr
	Zachary Baier	Stewart Frescas	Kevin Osburn
	Tom McHenry	Lynne McHenry	John Collier
	Curtis Ashendel	Pat Boling	

Chairman Sinha brought the meeting to order at 5:10pm and determined there was a quorum.

Ms. Burch made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 20th, 2014 meeting. Mr. Larry Wood seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as written.

Chairman Sinha publically welcomed Erin Cooper as the new Traffic Commission Secretary.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

#### **NORTHWESTERN HEIGHTS:**

Mrs. Lynn McHenry, who lives at 1011 Oakhurst Drive, came before the Commission to ask for permission to address a speeding concern in her neighborhood. The neighborhood now has quite a few children, seniors, and bicyclists, and for the safety of all, Mrs. McHenry requested a traffic study, 4 way stops, and speed limit signs, or some other idea.

Mr. Buck stated that he had spoken with Mrs. McHenry, and the City is planning on doing some speed counts and studies in the fall. The City is currently resurfacing the streets in her neighborhood and so the streets will be smooth and that might increase speeds. There are currently no speed limit signs.

Mr. Tom McHenry, who lives at who lives at 1011 Oakhurst Drive, commented that in the past there have been people who completely disregard stop signs in the neighborhood and would like to see some sort of action be taken to put that to an end.

**SIGNAL TIMINGS:**

Mr. Chris Colesh stated that his concern is the traffic lights/traffic signals, he doesn't believe that they are well timed well with what the traffic is for the time of day, and it seems that there are a lot of people who try to beat the light. Therefore, it becomes more of a safety issue, and would like the commission to look into it.

Mr. Buck stated that he appreciated the comments and that The City has inherited a lot of signals from INDOT and one of the things that City has been doing is implementing new controllers and fiber connections so the signals data collect all of the time. And eventually the City can use that data to adjust the timings of the signals so they work better through all times of the day.

**BICYCLE ACTUATION:**

Mrs. Pat Boling, who lives at 610 Carrolton Boulevard, asked if the traffic signals would contribute to bicyclists crossing the intersections, as well as pedestrians. Mr. Buck stated that the City is planning on putting markings on the pavement to trip the loops for the lights so bicyclists will know where to trip the signal.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Mr. Zachary Baiel, who lives at 124 Connolly Street, was also present and stated that he was excited to hear about the traffic signal advancements.

Mr. Baiel also cautioned board to look into the effects of contraflow lanes for the Purdue bicycle master plan.

Curtis Ashendel, who lives at 108 Creighton Road, stated that as a cyclist he thinks contraflow lanes for bicyclists would be much safer than the current bike lanes that are in place at this time.

It was also brought up that the pedestrian walking signal at Wood & Chauncey is not working, there is no button just wires hanging out. Mr. Buck said he would look into it.

**OLD BUSINESS:****Construction Project Updates:**

- South Street Station Plan Development: As presented at the last meeting, this proposed project at the end of South St. between Salisbury & Littleton is moving forward through the approval process. The rezone case will be heard at the July Area Plan Commission Meeting and then the August City Council Meeting.
- Happy Hollow Road Reconstruction: INDOT received bids on 7/9/2014. Of the 3 bids submitted, Rieth-Riley was the low bid coming in at \$5,937,070. INDOT is now reviewing bids to verify that all bids meet requirements to be considered awardable. The City is in

concurrency with the bid so if it is deemed awardable then they will get the contract. Mr. Buck would anticipate work starting around Labor Day.

- Cumberland Avenue Reconstruction, Phase III: Construction on Cumberland is underway, Milestone has the contract and they have started the work in front of Cumberland Elementary School. They are working on the parking lot modifications and then will begin the work on the mainline.
- Pedestrian Safety Improvements on Northwestern Avenue: The concrete work, ramp and curbs are expected to be completed by August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 before the students return for the fall semester. The new light poles, traffic lights, and railings have long lead times and the City is currently reviewing shop drawings on these items, so their installations will be continuing through the fall semester.
- Harrison Street: Miller Pipeline is working for Vectren to replace old steel gas mains with new medium pressure plastic lines. They are scheduled to be done before the students come back for the fall semester as well.
- Salisbury Street Improvements (Rainbow to US 52): Currently, the southbound lanes are open and the northbound lanes are now closed on the section of Salisbury between Rainbow and US 52.
- Traffic Count: Speed counts were done by the Engineering Department on McCormick Road. Assistant City Engineer Mr. Michael Susong stated that the City has been very busy this summer doing the traffic counts requested by the APC.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Purdue Bike Plan:** Mr. John Collier with Purdue and Mr. Kevin Osborn with REA came to give a presentation regarding the Purdue Bike Plan. His presentation discussed the four phases of the project, data collection, plan alternatives, developing of the draft plan, reviewing of the draft plan.

Mr. Osborn explained the differences between on street facilities, and on campus facilities. On street facilities are bike lanes, contraflow lanes, sharrows, and protected bike lanes. On campus facilities are bike paths and service drives that currently exist on campus.

At the end of the presentation, Purdue requested consideration for 4 projects on City streets: 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Grant Street between Harrison and Northwestern.

The proposed recommendation for 1<sup>st</sup> Street is to add sharrows on the two lanes and keep parking on the north side of the street.

The proposed recommendation for 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is to add bike lanes between the Purdue Fire Station and University Street, and sharrows west of the Purdue Fire Station to McCormick Road.

The proposed recommendation for 4<sup>th</sup> Street is to have parking on the south side of 4<sup>th</sup> street, a sharrow eastbound lane and a contraflow westbound bicycle lane. All vehicular traffic on the 4<sup>th</sup> St. would become one way to the east.

The proposed recommendation on Grant Street between Harrison & Williams is sharrows.

The proposed recommendation on Grant Street between Wood Street & State Street is to keep one lane of traffic each way and add a 5 foot bike lane with a 3 foot buffer between traffic and the bike lane.

The proposed recommendation for Grant Street from State Street to Northwestern is a south bound contraflow lane on the west side of Grant Street. And sharrows for the northbound traffic.

Mr. Buck stated that he is concerned that the south bound contraflow bike lane ending and becoming a shared lane south of State Street.

Ms. Carrie Ehresman asked if there was a bicycle count on campus. Mr. Collier stated that the last count was 2,100 bicycles.

Mr. Buck stated that he would like to wait and work out the details for the Grant Street and Northwestern intersection with Purdue before we approve the recommendation.

Mr. Larry Preo made a motion to approve the proposed recommendations for 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Boudewijn van Gelder seconded and the recommendations were approved.

With no other business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING:** 5:00 pm, Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at the West Lafayette Public Library, in the Walnut room.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Buck, P.E.  
Public Works Director

DMB/ec